

Paid vs. Volunteer Work on Open Source in China

Summary

This thesis repeats our prior work on paid vs. volunteer work for the Chinese-language open source forge OSChina.net / Gitee.com. The thesis provides a descriptive analysis of the data and the work performed on the forge. The overarching question is: What can we learn about open source in China using current development data?

Work Results

- Literature review
 - Review of any research work on Chinese specifics when it comes to open source, if any
- Research approach and execution
 - Determine available Chinese-language forges (e.g. OSChina/Gitee)
 - Crawl and gather project data from available Chinese-language forges
 - Result is one large table (or CSV file) with the commit data
 - Analyse the gathered data to provide answers and charts like those of [1]
 - Charts (time-series) of work by weekday over the course of a week
 - Classification of each commit as either paid or volunteer work (to the extent possible)
 - Leading to one key number, the percentage of paid work
 - Provide interpretation of data gathered using interviews and other input
- Notes on research approach
 - Simpler: Just one time zone; all data in git; all data is good quality
 - Harder: How to not double-count forks?
- Research results
 - A research thesis following the paper structure of [1] (with more information)

[1] Dirk Riehle, Philipp Riemer, Carsten Kolassa, Michael Schmidt. "Paid vs. Volunteer Work in Open Source." In Proceedings of the 47th Hawaii International Conference on System Science (HICSS 2014). IEEE Press, 2014. Page 3286-3295.

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